

ROOT IS CAREFUL.

State Secretary Posted on Various Phases of Fisheries Question.

Secretary of State Root is a great man for "system" in the work of his department and is making great progress in plan to have things as they should be so that facts, figures, etc., will be instantly accessible. A few days ago he was talking with the Washington correspondent of a Boston paper and in the course of quite a long interview as to the benefits derived by the country, the state department and himself by having things accessible and in order, said, regarding a matter in which all Gloucester is vitally interested:

"We are dealing today, with matters that have been going on during the entire history of the government.

Take, for instance, the Newfoundland fisheries question. We are involved now in dealing with questions which have been discussed in various phases and in a multitude of forms since away back to the time of the treaty of 1783, then 1818, then 1854, then 1871, then the discussion of the Hay-Bond treaty and the Halifax award.

"There is hardly a year to be found for 120 years back in which there has not been something on that subject. Now I have got to be able to get hold of all that has been said; otherwise I might make a most humiliating mistake in answering arguments by the British foreign office if I overlooked something that has been done and said in the state department during the last century."

ALL WORKING HARD

But It Looked Blue for Cargoes Before Herring Struck.

Potomac Bound Home but Mr. Alexander Will Stay with Fleet.

A letter received this morning from Bay of Islands, N. F., and written a few days before the herring struck in again in the Middle Arm, says the Potomac came down to Birchy Cove from Middle Arm with letters and despatches from the fleet Monday morning and returned at once to resume her work among the fleet. Since a week ago Friday she was engaged in breaking up the ice and freeing the vessels. On Saturday she finished breaking the ice in the Goose and Penguin Arms, these being the places where the herring were, and then took up the work of towing the vessels out of it. Quite a number shifted from Penguin to Goose Arm and others were to shift next day.

The weather when the letter was written was very mild and rain had fallen steadily for two days, melting all the snow and shaking things up generally. It is to be hoped that the Arms will be free of ice for the next two weeks, otherwise there will be little or no opportunity for vessels to load. The season has been a hard one and the present outlook is not at all encouraging. Everybody is working hard to secure a load of herring and if energy will assist in obtaining herring where few or none are to be found, all the vessels are likely to be loaded before the season ends. Because the outlook is dark today is no sign that it will continue. The Potomac will leave in a few days for home, but Mr. Alexander will remain with the fleet, probably until the end of the season.

When the letter was written herring were scarce, but as the note indicated, it was no sign because it was a dark outlook then that it would continue so. Herring have struck in and vessels are doing well. The Potomac is probably on the way home by this time and it is expected that she will stop here on the way to New York.

It is understood that the tug Potomac left Bay of Islands, N. F., for New York on Thursday.

MODUS VIVENDI UNFAIR.

Daily Mail Calls It Unjust to Newfoundland.

A London despatch of Friday says: "Apropos of the departure from Washington of Sir Henry Mortimer Durand, British ambassador to the United States, the Daily Mail describes the modus vivendi recently arranged as harsh and unjust to Newfoundland, conceding everything to the United States with reciprocal concessions. It says that if Mr. Bryce succeeds in bringing about a fairer solution of this matter the whole empire will be indebted to him. The Daily Mail feels satisfied that Mr. Bryce will not be likely to sacrifice Canadian interests.

"Sir Henry Mortimer Durand's departure is referred to editorially this morning with expressions of congratulations upon his work and he is credited with having effected a great improvement in the relations between the two countries. It is reported that he will be offered a peerage.

"The question of the appointment of a Canadian to assist Mr. Bryce at Washington also is discussed. The belief seems to be held that rather than appoint such an official permanently it will be decided, when important Canadian matters arise, to appoint a Canadian representative particularly for the matter under consideration, who shall take part in the councils."

DAILY TIMES FISH BUREAU.

Today's Arrivals and Receipts.

Sch. Sylvia M. Nunan, shore.
Sch. John M. Keen, shore.
Sch. Speculator, via Boston.
Sch. Valentinnia, shore.
Sch. Catherine D. Enos, shore.
Sch. Reliance, shore.
Sch. Julietta, shore.
Sch. Rita A. Viator, shore.
Sch. Mary A. Gleason, shore.
Sloop Morning Star, shore.

Boston.

Sch. Carrie F. Roberts, 2000 haddock, 500 hake.
Str. Ida, 1500 cod.
Sloop Favorite, 2500 cod.
Sch. Mertis H. Perry, 3200 cod.
Sch. Theresa and Alice, 6500 haddock, 650 cod, 2000 hake.
Sch. Galatea, 8000 haddock, 1000 cod.
Sch. Minerva, 500 haddock, 1500 cod.
Sch. Belbina P. Domingoes, 7000 haddock, 8000 cod, 4000 hake.
Sch. Sabine, 1000 cod.
Haddock, \$4.75 per cwt.; large cod, \$4 to \$5; market cod, \$3; hake, \$2 to \$4.

Fishing Fleet Movements.

Sch. Lena and Maud of this port, bound home from Bay of Islands, N. F., with a full cargo of salt herring, was at Halifax, N. S., Thursday to land a sick man.

ICE OFF FISHING GROUNDS.

St. Johns, Dec. 29.—The fishing grounds are again free from ice, and 40 American vessels are making especial efforts to secure cargoes of herring before the flocks again blockade the seaboard. The weather here is warm, the thermometer registering 62 degrees.

Should Have Been 14,000,000 Pounds.

The slipping out of one figure often makes sad havoc with a story, and such was the case yesterday, when in the article regarding the doings of the salt bank codfishing fleet it read in a portion of the edition that the catch of the fleet in 1904 was 4,550,000 pounds and in 1905 the figure was given as 4,002,000 pounds. It is needless to say, perhaps, that the figure 1 should have gone before each, making the 1904 figures 14,550,000 pounds and the 1905 figures 14,002,000 pounds.

DAILY TIMES FISH BUREAU.

Boston.

Sch. Catherine, 3000 haddock, 500 cod, 500 hake.
Sch. Joseph H. Cromwell, 4000 haddock, 1500 hake.
Sch. Mattakesett, 9000 haddock, 1000 cod, 2000 hake.
Sch. Lillian, 5000 cod.
Sch. Mary Edith, 5500 haddock, 200 cod.
Sch. Emerald.
Haddock, \$3.50 to \$4; large cod, \$5; market cod, \$3; hake, \$2.50 to \$3.

ANOTHER DISASTER.

Sch. Ralph F. Hodgdon Total Loss at Bay of Islands.

Bound Home with Only 200 Barrels of Salt Herring.

A special despatch to the Daily Times this forenoon from Bay of Islands, N. F., states that sch. Ralph F. Hodgdon of Eastport, formerly of this port, went ashore at Birchy Cove in that bay last night and will be a total loss.

The craft is the oldest American schooner in the Newfoundland herring fleet. At the time of the accident she was bound for home with only 200 barrels of salt herring, having lost about all her nets during storms and in the ice.